

# THE CIVILIAN

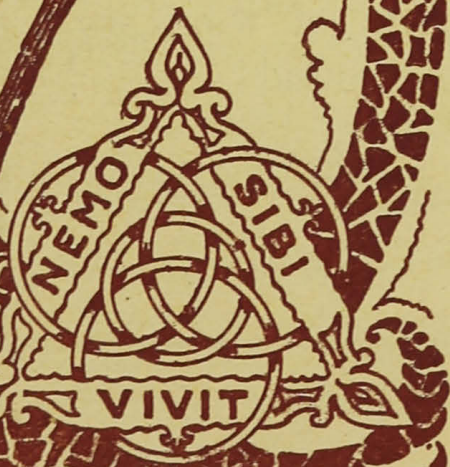
A FORTNIGHTLY JOURNAL  
DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS  
OF THE  
CIVIL SERVICE OF CANADA

## FEATURES.

Lieut. R. W. Powell, M.C.  
Decorations Won.  
Civil Service Casualties.  
Roll of Honour.  
Women's Column.  
Civil Service Personals.  
The Postal Journal.

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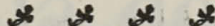
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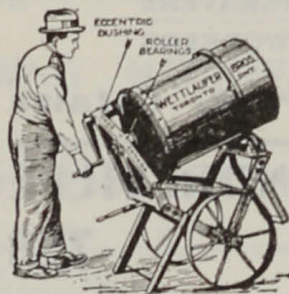
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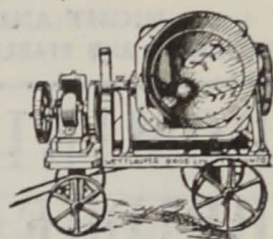
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# THE CIVILIAN

Vol. X.

AUGUST 17, 1917.

No. 9

## Lieut. Robert Wynyard Powell, M.C.



LIEUT. ROBERT WYNYARD POWELL, M.C.

Further details of how Lieut. Robert Wynyard Powell, of the Engineers, won the bar to his Military Cross are given in the text of the official order awarding the second decoration. It says:

“For conspicuous gallantry in action. He displayed great courage and determination in digging a trench under very heavy fire. Later, severely knocked about by a shell, he continued at his work. He set a splendid example of courage and coolness throughout.”

This splendid testimony, added to the former fine achievement of the young Public Works engineer, makes his record one of the finest of civil servants in the war. It is worth repeating what the order granting him the Military Cross in July, 1916, said:

“For conspicuous gallantry. When in charge of a working party he carried on his work during several days and nights with the greatest coolness under heavy artillery and machine gun fire and frequent bombing attacks. He assisted the wounded and set a fine example to his men. He was himself twice wounded during this period.”



### DECORATIONS WON.

Lieut. Clem King, of the Canadian Field Artillery, was decorated with the Military Cross by the King during His Majesty's recent tour of the British front in France. Lieut. King is a Public Works engineer of Ottawa. He enrolled for overseas service in August, 1915, with the 32nd Battery, C.F.A.

Lieut. William George Hazlett (Secretary of State's Department) who went overseas with the 21st Battalion as a sergeant, won a commission and was wounded in April, wins the Military Cross. The order says that he "*was wounded, but rallied his men and gained the objective, capturing a machine gun.*"

The names of two men of the Seed Branch, Dept. of Agriculture, are added to the roll of those who have won decorations for meritorious work at the front.

Major Alfred Eastham has won the Military Cross. He went overseas as a lieutenant in the 56th Battalion, but has risen to a majority and is now connected with a machine gun unit. He holds a militia commission in the 103rd regiment of Calgary and is well known both in that city and in Ottawa.

Major H. L. Keegan, of Calgary, holds a commission in the Elbow River squadron of the 15th Light Horse and went overseas with the 50th Battalion as captain, but is now with another unit. He won promotion at the front and has received a Legion of Honour recognition from the French Government.

Horace H. Pritchard, of the Niagara Falls post office staff, was one of the recent recipients of the Military Medal. Pritchard was a 44th Regiment recruit for overseas. He was a corporal when he reached England, but he gave up his stripes to get to France. In the field he was successively promoted lance-corporal, corporal and sergeant, and now the Mili-

tary Medal testifies further to his soldierly qualities.

### CIVIL SERVICE CASUALTIES.

LIEUT. HENRY N. ORR, of the Department of Inland Revenue, Woodstock, Ont., was one of those gallant officers who waived their rank in order to get to the front. He went overseas as a captain in the 168th Battalion, but was serving as lieutenant when killed in action on July 14th. He was forty-three years of age.

CHAS. ALEX. GORDON, postal clerk, Toronto, has been wounded and taken prisoner. He left Canada in October and reached France in March. A younger brother is also at the front.

A. W. M'LACHLAN, railway mail clerk of the Winnipeg district, who went overseas with the 144th Battalion, has been wounded.

LIEUT. RALPH M. MADILL, of the Toronto post office staff, was lately killed in action in France. He was twenty-three years of age and entered the postal service in 1913.

W. E. TUPPER, of the Canadian Field Artillery, gassed, is inspector of subsidized steamship services for the Department of Trade and Commerce, and has his home at Digby, N.S., but is well known in Ottawa, having spent several winters at the headquarters of the department.

LIEUT. ROBERT DUDLEY TWISS, assistant engineer of Public Works at Prince Albert, who went overseas with the 146th Battalion and has been missing for some months, is now officially "presumed dead" since October 8th, 1916. He was an officer of the 52nd Regiment.

TEMP. LT.-COL. H. V. RORKE, wounded on August 5th, belongs to the Dept. of Customs, Ottawa. He has commanded a famous 2nd Division battalion with great ability and won the D.S.O. some time ago. A sketch and portrait of him appeared in *The Civilian* recently.



## The Roll of Honour.

Volunteers from the Public Service of Canada for active military service.  
Number of names previously published—3,619.

### SEVENTY-NINTH LIST.

(Additional list from the Dept. of Customs):

H. M. Anderson, Ottawa, C.A.M.C.  
W. R. Bennett, Ottawa, C.A.S.C.  
L. R. J. W. Charron, Ottawa, Royal Flying Corps.  
J. S. Douglas, Brandon, 202nd Battalion.  
J. E. Drummond, Ottawa, Royal Flying Corps.  
A. A. Ellement, Ottawa, Civil Service Siege Battery.  
F. M. Lavell, Edmonton, 72nd Battery C.F.A.  
A. S. Ogilvy, Ottawa, C.A.M.C.  
D. H. Avery, Winnipeg, 90th Battalion Reinforcements.  
Sergt. R. P. Patton, Winnipeg, 90th Battalion.  
Norman Sharkey, Ottawa, Civil Service Siege Battery.  
Sergt. R. H. Sheffield, Edmonton, 236th Battalion.  
W. F. Strutt, Ottawa, Civil Service Siege Battery.  
H. S. Baines, Ottawa, Div. Ammunition Column.  
J. J. Denney, Edmonton, 78th Battery, C.F.A.  
R. L. Henry, Windsor, 67th Battery, C.F.A.  
Sergt. R. E. V. Robb, Ottawa, Forestry and Construction Battalion.  
J. F. Mahoney, Halifax, 10th Siege Battery.  
J. D. Paterson, Regina, Aviation Corps.  
A. J. Patterson, Ottawa, 72nd Battery, C.F.A.  
J. J. Moore, Montreal, Heavy Siege Artillery.  
J. E. Peaker, Ottawa, 72nd Battery, C.F.A.  
J. G. Reymond, Ottawa, Army Service Corps.  
G. A. Stevens, Moose Jaw, 77th Battery, C.F.A.  
A. C. Wright, Vancouver, 72nd Battalion.

(Additional list from the Dept. of the Naval Service):

James Quinn, "Malaspina."  
M. H. Robinson, "Galiano."  
John Ridley, "Restless," 11th C.M.R.  
Leo Roberge, Ottawa.  
C. B. Shaw, Ottawa.  
A. Smith, "Malaspina," 88th Battalion.  
F. C. G. Smith, Ottawa, Construction Battalion.  
R. Saugstad, "Merlin."  
N. L. Sinclair, Strathcona, Alta.  
E. H. Stevenson, The Pas, Man., Imperial Inland Water Transport.  
J. S. Stephenson, Willow Creek, Alta.  
Henry Sedgwick, The Pas, Man.  
C. A. Sinclair, Selkirk, Man.  
W. L. Thompson, Ucluelet, B.C.

(Additional list from Dept. of Militia and Defence):

Lieut. T. R. Tubman, Ottawa, 139th Battalion.  
D. F. M. Rogers, Ottawa, 4th Div. Amm. Col.  
Lieut. J. T. Arenburg, Lunenburg, N.S., 64th Battalion.  
J. E. Bramah, St. Catherines, 176th Battalion.  
J. Brown, Woodstock, 71st Battalion.  
W. Bye, Winnipeg, 100th Battalion.  
J. Boisvert, Fraserville, P.Q., 189th Battalion.  
Q.M. Sgt. G. E. Cordock, Galt, 35th Battalion.  
Sgt. J. B. Freston, Winnipeg, 34th Fort Garry Horse.  
F. Grandame, Montreal, 9th Field Ambulance.  
Sgt. Geo. Grange, Peterboro, 93rd Battalion.  
Sgt. A. Grove, Woodstock, 168th Battalion.  
S. Harvey, Red Deer, Sask.  
W. B. Horsman, St. John, N.B., 140th Battalion.  
R.Q.M. Sgt. W. H. Jeffrey, Montreal, 5th Pioneers.



# THE CIVILIAN

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THE CIVILIAN, P. O. Box 484, Ottawa.

Ottawa, August 17, 1917

## THE NATIONAL DUTY.

*Three years of war with all they have meant to every home in the British Empire have served to weld more closely than ever the bonds of unity and steel the hearts of the whole nation in their firm resolve to secure the sacred principles of justice, freedom and humanity. It is for these we fight and by God's help we mean to triumph.*

—George V.

*Once more we reach the anniversary of that fateful day three years ago, when Germany challenged the future of democracy and the freedom of the world. The resolve of the nations of the British commonwealth is now once more renewed. To-day they again affirm an invincible determination to sustain the ideals of liberty and justice to a victorious issue.*

*The anniversary brings to us proud but solemn memories, with an intense realization of all the sacrifice and sorrow entailed on our people. We are conscious that Canada has vindicated her place among the world's greatest and truest democracies. Assuredly her sons have not suffered and died in vain if liberty and justice are to have any meaning in the future of humanity.*

—Sir Robert Borden.

## OUR BOYS

Previously reported:

Dead ... ..	241
Wounded ... ..	322
Prisoners ... ..	17

### DEAD

LIEUT. R. D. TWISS.  
LIEUT. R. M. MADILL.  
LIEUT. (CAPT.) H. N. ORR.

### WOUNDED

A. W. M'LACHLAN.  
W. E. TUPPER.  
LT.-COL. H. V. RORKE, D.S.O.

### PRISONER.

CHAS. ALEX. GORDON (and  
wounded).

## THE TORONTO MEETING.

The effects of that indignation meeting of Dominion employees in Toronto should be good. The Government will surely do something worth while to relieve the hard situation of the low-paid men in the Outside Service. No doubt the Government decided to do this months ago, but its delay in taking action has been lamentable and neither promises nor good intentions on the part of the Government will pay the landlord or the butcher in Toronto or any other city.

At the Toronto meeting men of all departments and classes attended. That in itself was an innovation of value. "Get together" is a motto to which civil servants pay too little heed. A realization of community of interest is the first step towards success in all great movements.

The Toronto men met in public and the newspaper reporters were there. Strong feelings were evidenced by some of the speakers, but they showed just cause for their forceful expressions. Some of the stories told



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### KEEP UP-TO-DATE

of the struggle to live were revelations to most people. The newspapers told the whole tale and their readers got an eye-opener.

The Toronto gathering was good all around.

#### THE ROLL.

With the present issue the Civil Service Roll of Honour commences the fourth year of its existence. From a few names, hastily gathered from chance sources during the first week of the war, it has grown to be a grand roll, approaching four thousand names, and the greatest record of Civil Service patriotism ever compiled.

Were it not for this Roll who would believe that so many men of the Canadian public service had enlisted for active service? Again and again the Service has been attacked on this very ground, but the Roll has proved to be the final and sufficient answer on every occasion.

With the publication of the seventy-ninth list of the Roll, making a total of 3,676 names published (there are several hundred yet to come), the descriptive top line is given a new wording. It is desired to emphasize that all these men are *volunteers*. Conscription is at hand and conscripts will not be listed in the Roll. When compulsory service is put into force, the Roll will be closed to all except

those sworn in for military service before that date.

#### RUMORS.

*The Civilian* has, on several occasions during the past few months, ignored matters of alleged importance to the Civil Service that were dealt with in the daily press. This was not neglect, but deliberate intention, because the editors of this journal found, on inquiry, that the published reports were without foundation. A detailed "announcement" of the proposals of the Government in regard to Outside Service salary increases furnishes a good illustration. Where the newspapers got their "dope" has not been learned, but men who were stated to be connected with a certain delegation that had waited upon the Government were not even in Ottawa on the day in question.

*The Civilian* can't waste space in dealing with every rumor that flies. Its constant advice to all civil servants is to credit only positive statements made by ministers in parliament.

Win the war.

Watch your label.

Some correspondents in both Inside and Outside Services are wearying in the good work of reporting casualties, enlistments, etc. Carry on, brothers!



Every civil servant should study up the income tax problem. It involves hundreds of thousands of dollars per year of Dominion employees' money. And, remember,—*it's not the war tax* we are fighting, but the old municipal tax for general purposes under the Provincial assessment act.

"Not the last bullet, but the last crust will win the war," says the Prussian Minister of Agriculture. His declaration should be, to Canadians, as strong a call to duty as it is to the Prussians. May no Canadian suffer the guilty memory of having thrown that last crust away?

The Postal Clerks' Association of the Dominion of Canada, which outgrew the Western field some time ago and became a coast-to-coast organization, will meet East of the Lakes for the first time in 1918. It is now up to the Eastern branches to make that convention a record-breaker, just to show the Western boys how much their inauguration of this big movement is appreciated.

### THE INCOME TAX APPEAL.

Work preparatory to the adoption by the Civil Service of the Morson income tax case as a test appeal to the British Privy Council goes rapidly forward. Much valuable and necessary information has been collected and skilled advice secured.

The committee of the Ottawa association has held meetings at which representatives of the Outside Service were present, and the plans suggested provide for the co-operation of all departments and divisions in the work ahead.

The costs of appeal will be considerable, but the number of civil servants affected is so great and the amount of taxes involved is so large that a percentage of one year's taxes will pay the whole expense if everyone does his part.

Both Inside and Outside Services will share in bearing the costs and be represented in the management of the case.

Definite plans will be announced shortly.

### WAR PERSONALS.

Pte. Eric L. Dawson, youngest son of G. W. Dawson, of the Department of Public Works, is one of a draft now on the way to the front from the training depot of Military District No. 3.

Lieut. Frank Grierson, C.F.A., who waived his rank as captain and the command of the 74th Battery in order to get overseas, has been adjutant of No. 6 Area at Otterpool Camp and was recently in temporary command of the camp.

Tempy. Lieut.-Col. D. S. Tamblyn is gazetted Assistant Director of Veterinaries.

Lieut. L. B. Kingston, who has won the Military Cross, is a son of A. G. Kingston, chief accountant, Public Works.

Welland Customs staff has a new member in the person of C. W. Hobbs, of Granton, Ont., who went overseas with the 71st Battalion. He went through the third battle of Ypres safely, but was wounded in trench work later by the bursting of a shrapnel shell. Fragments of the shell severely wounded him in the left wrist and leg, and after healing, the wounds left him with a stiff wrist and one leg slightly shorter than the other.

### ONE OF "OURS."

How bravely Lieut. E. A. Valiquet (Public Works, Ottawa and Prince Rupert) bore intense suffering from wounds and awaited certain death is told in a cable from Lieut. Fred. James. He says:

"While he was lying beside me he never whimpered, but showed



fine stuff. He knew he was dying, as the priest administered extreme unction. I thought his sacrifice would not be in vain if the French-Canadians heard of this."

### EMPLOYING VETERANS.

A return to Parliament shows that 3,686 returned soldiers have been given employment in Government departments, as follows: Public Works, 55; Justice, 1 on the permanent staff and 3 on the temporary staff; Labor, 1; Railways and Canals, 102; Interior, 81; Naval Service, 17; Inland Revenue, 14; State Department, 4; Printing and Stationery, 9; Auditor-General, 5; Finance, 8; Customs, 203; Mines, 7; Marine and Fisheries, 8; Trade and Commerce, 15; Post Office, 598; Agriculture, 41; Militia and Defence, 2,514.

### TORONTO MAKES DEMANDS.

Three hundred Federal employees, gathered in St. George's hall, Toronto, on the evening of July 27th under the chairmanship of T. G. Mathieson and representing the Post Office, Public Works and other departments, adopted resolutions demanding from the Government a bonus of \$25 per month, dating from April 1st, 1917.

The meeting was a very stormy one and the men showed that the struggle against the high cost of living on low and fixed salaries had driven them to desperation. Several told pitiful tales of their personal affairs.

A representative deputation was appointed to go to Ottawa and lay the resolution before the Government.

### HELPING THE FARMERS.

Ottawa civil servants are giving material assistance to relieve the serious shortage of farm labour in Eastern Ontario during the haying season. The Organization of Resources Committee recommended to the Government that special inducements be given civil servants who would do farm work during their vacations, and the Ministers of the Interior, Agri-

culture and Labor made an appeal to the whole Service to take up the work, offering a fourth week's vacation to those who would work on the farms for three weeks. A large number accepted the offer and are at work in the hay fields, while scores of others will go to the farms in the harvest season.

### WITH THE "POSTALS."

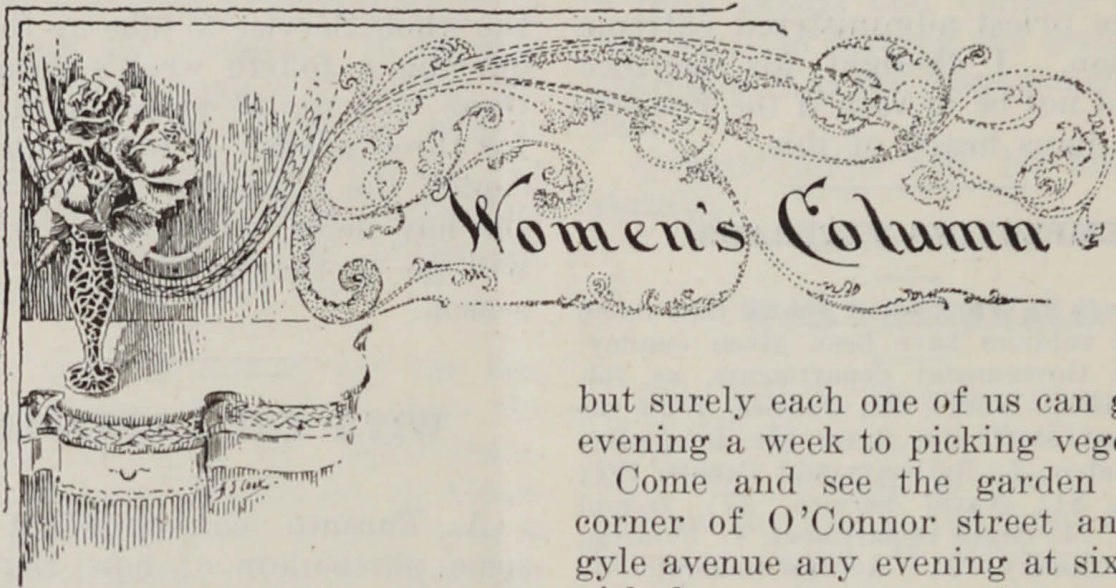
A Toronto correspondent sends some particulars of how Ernest F. Hanbidge, of Toronto post office, was injured at the front. The incident shows that the Postal Corps has no "safety first" job. The letter says:

"He belonged to the 3rd (Toronto) Battalion, and was later transferred to the Postal Corps in France. On March 17th, 1916, while he and a comrade were bringing the mail in their mail wagon from the station to headquarters, a German airplane sailed over them and began to drop bombs. Both boys jumped into the ditch for safety and Hanbidge hurt his knee severely. He writes that his leg is still 'on the crooked side,' but he hopes he will be in Canada for his Christmas dinner."

### CENTRAL CANADA EXHIBITION

As a Canadian you are interested in the Exhibition held at the Capital; as an Ottawa man get behind your city's enterprise; as a civil servant take a real, live interest in a great, big institution which has among the men responsible for its success the following gentlemen, who are your colleagues, all men of the Public Service of Canada: John W. Brant, Live Stock Record Branch, Treasurer; Messrs. Grisdale, Barr, Stewart, Robertson and Dr. Hilton, of the Department of Agriculture; Controller Kent, of Ottawa River Works, and Wm. Cherry, Post Office Department, Directors.





### A Patriotic Duty.

Too much cannot be said in praise of those women who not only undertook volunteer gardening at the Civil Service lot but have stayed with the project from the time the first sod was turned until the present.

Many were the volunteers at the start, but few have had the perseverance and industry to keep up the good work. It is strange, too, for one would suppose that after working hard to get the ground into condition, the original workers would want to be on the spot when the tomatoes were ripe and the beans were ready to be picked.

More pickers are needed at the garden every night now. The men of the Service as well as the women are asked to come and lend a hand, if only occasionally.

Picking vegetables and flowers and preparing them for market is always interesting work, especially when done in the cool of the evening. Individually, we owe some assistance to the able convener of the garden, our Past President, Miss Florence Burt, who has allowed nothing to interfere with her work and whose tireless energy is responsible for the first-class condition of the lot to-day.

It is hoped that later on we may be able to publish the number of hours the different workers have devoted to gardening.

We all cannot "fork for freedom,"

but surely each one of us can give an evening a week to picking vegetables.

Come and see the garden at the corner of O'Connor street and Argyle avenue any evening at six-thirty o'clock.

### A Book of the Time.

The Women's Branch is indebted to Mr. F. Colson, of the Department of the Secretary of State, for a copy of "Florence Nightingale, as Seen in Her Portraits," which he has lately presented to the Branch.

The volume is edited by Maude E. Seymour Abbott, of McGill University, Montreal, and contains fifteen illustrations of Florence Nightingale with a sketch of her life and an account of her relation to the origin of the Red Cross Society. It is dedicated to "those noble women who have followed in the footsteps of Miss Nightingale and have thereby raised the profession of nursing to the high place it now occupies, and who maintain it therein above the dust of commercialism."

All profits from the sale of the book are for the benefit of the Canadian Red Cross Society, so not only does the Branch thank Mr. Colson for his gift but it hopes that the gift itself will result in a number of copies being sold.

### First.

The first ripe tomatoes marketed from the volunteer gardens were grown in the Civil Service lot.

Already over fifty dollars has been realized from the sale of vegetables grown there.



## Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed under this heading.

Ottawa, August 13, 1917.

Editor *The Civilian*,

In these strenuous war times when the 'gospel' of conservation is preached everywhere throughout the Empire a suggestion regarding stationery supplies may not be amiss.

Large quantities of paper, including letterheads, bond, scrap, carbon, envelopes, as well as supplies of all description, accumulate on shelves, in drawers and pigeon-holes far more quickly than they can be used for regular correspondence. The average office worker will no doubt acknowledge that he or she has in her desk at the present moment more stationery supplies than will be required by that particular individual within the next four or five months, with the re-

sult of considerable waste from light and dust. A month's supplies are all that should reasonably be stored in a desk at one time.

Would it not be a good plan for each branch of the Government departments to have one of its staff make a friendly tour of the rooms and ask the workers to co-operate in every possible way in preventing this unnecessary waste. When one considers that the cost of paper of all kinds has increased in the last two years from 75 per cent to over 110 per cent, the above suggestion will doubtless be welcomed as another "win the war" scheme, and thus save the Government many hundreds of dollars annually.

In the department in which the writer is employed, one of the officials called a meeting and discussed this matter in a friendly way with the members of the staff, soliciting their co-operation in the conservation of stationery supplies of all kinds. The



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result was that, on the following morning, a large percentage of the supplies in the various desks was returned to the stock-room, there to be held until further requests for additional material should be made. While there were dozens of sheets of dusty and shelf-worn paper turned in, yet no waste resulted, as this portion was sorted and cut up for "scratch-pads" which serve their purpose in this way

quite as well as the standard "scratch-pads" purchased by every department for memoranda, etc.

A further step towards reduction of waste was the distribution to each employee of typed slips  $5\frac{1}{2}" \times 3\frac{1}{2}"$ , with the following memorandum thereon:

"Requisition for Supplies."

"Please supply (long blank)

"Date. Signature."

.....

This will enable the distribution clerk to keep a check on all supplies issued and thus avoid unnecessary accumulation of same.

"CONSERVATIONIST."

A.H.R., Victoria.—The name will go on the Roll. Thanks. Send us any news of your department on the coast.

J.B.S., Regina.—We are acting on your suggestion. Will carry it out if possible.

I.B., Ottawa.—Thanks for note. Quoted paragraphs interesting. Will use at suitable opportunity.

F.W.H.J., Ottawa.—Good stuff. Thanks.



### Your Children

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## TALES OF AN AMBULANCE MAN.

Hubert Fawcett, of the Department of Agriculture, who is at the front with a Field Ambulance, writes long and interesting letters to some of his Ottawa friends. The following extracts are from two of his letters. The first one evidently refers to the great fight at Courcellette and the second gives an idea of how the Canadians were feeling just before the Arras drive began.

Thursday, Oct. 26th, 1916.

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

On looking back I find your last letter reached me on September 15th. All day we had been building a shelter on the safe side of a certain "Ridge." We had just had tea—bully beef and hard tack—and had come back from a hurry-up call to a certain village (at least it had once been a village) when three or four letters came for me. We all got into our shelter, close quarters, just a blanket over the opening, then lit up a solitary candle, by which I read my letters. We were soon called to help at our advanced aid post a mile away. This was about 10 a.m. Our first case we carried from the aid post to the road, 1½ miles. We were rather a composite bunch—one of our doctors, a guide and two common or ordinary stretcher bearers of which your humble servant was one. This was easy going. Our next case was from away past our aid post along the trenches. Least said soonest mended. A couple of trips like this left us just about dead with fatigue. We were relieved about 5 a.m. after nearly twenty-four hours' work. I could talk to you about it, but somehow it isn't quite possible to describe in writing. Some days later we were able to see the whole Canadian front under the white flag. Bodies lay everywhere just where they fell in all stages of decomposition. It makes gruesome writing as well as reading. To make a long story short, at last our stay in this district was ended. It ended with most of our boys being about all in. We left two of our boys behind and sent about six through C.C.S. with wounds, some serious, others slight.

We have a great time recognizing French and Belgian officers. Their gendarmes are most magnificent creatures, and it is quite difficult to distinguish them. My friend suggested that we don't put ourselves to a great deal of trouble about it, still you will see the point of a cartoon I saw somewhere of Tommy meeting a Belgian

official suddenly and wondering if he was a postman or a major-general.

"The Tatler" has a pretty good slam at staff officers:

A.—If bread is the staff of life, what is the life of the staff?

B.—You've got me.

A.—One long loaf.

This letter isn't complete without a "poem" from the "Silent 60th," a trench paper, which is more emphatic than polite:

There is a cellar up in Hooge  
Where we wandered in one day,  
Where the floor is paved with Germans  
That have long since passed away.  
And when the Captain saw it,  
Why, he nearly had a fit,  
And said, though others liked it,  
"Sure I'll never stand for it."  
So he sprinkled it with chloride,  
Just to cover up the smell.  
It's the only place I know of  
That's a damned sight worse than Hell.  
And though the chloride's powerful,  
It's more than we can stand,  
For it's sure the vilest smelling place  
In this forsaken land.

March 23rd, 1917 (or thereabouts).

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

We are having a glorious time—as dirty as pigs or dirtier, and as happy as sand boys. Prospects are excellent for a wash perhaps next Thursday—that is, a week or so from to-day. Perhaps then we may even shave! Our house is most commodious, airy and clean, all modern conveniences, not more than sixty feet below. We are building a dressing station. Originally it was a chalk quarry. The walls and ceiling, of course, are chalk. In some places where we have been clipping away it is white, elsewhere black with smoke. We are pick and shovel men working in shifts day and night. Last night I and some others were working on top clearing ground for a new opening. It was surely a great night—a little snow before midnight and then a clear sky with myriads of stars. About 300 yards on our left Fritz would send up flares and perhaps a thousand yards on our right. Ever so often our artillery would send over a few long distance shells which you could hear whistling through the air for several seconds and making a sound not unlike an express train, then a "crump," as it landed somewhere behind his lines. Sometimes you would hear two or three in the air at once. It is rather an eerie sound, but so



long as they don't land your way you don't mind. Then for a while absolute silence—not even a rifle or machine gun bullet. Now, Fritz, send up another star shell so that we can see where we are working. He always supplies the illuminations. I tried to find the "dipper" and then hunted for the "love star." That sent me dreaming of home sweet home and real Canadian girls. I have almost forgotten what a girl looks like. The fact is I am almost becoming a Christian Scientist in believing they are merely phantoms of the brain.

We are at ———, a kind of half-civilized place, for a "rest." (We always work harder "at rest"). This place has a population of 30,000 with a few half decent stores and a French picture show.

March 27.—Much has been doing during the last few days. Fritz got good and mad for a while and nearly suffocated us. "All's well that ends well." Feeling fine now, though a bit queer about the head and stomach for a couple of days. Feel more sure of myself now than ever before as regards nerve, but don't think I am quite as strong. The boys are encouraged by the German retreat. Fritz will be discouraged in at least an equal degree. He is beaten on every hand. Just watch the very hottest corner of the western front in a few weeks. We'll be right there. If you won't be able to call this the "pivot of Hell" in a few weeks' time I miss my guess. I think our boys—the ambulance—will get all they want very soon. So far we have been ringed with horse-shoes, but guess we can take the medicine that we get. I feel that there will be a good many of us "pushing the daisies" before the war is over, though I don't think the war will last much longer. Do you remember Wolfe? "They run." "Who run?" "The enemy"; and that's the feeling of the boys now. The growling of the winter in the mud and cold of the trenches is largely gone. Some of the old-time fire is back. You can hear the boys talking to one another and you don't hear many dismal notes. When Mrs. Britain and Miss Canuck get together—look out. Fritz hates the skirts like—a boy hates his first long pants.

I have hunted up two of our old bunch of Ottawans here in France, as well as my brother-in-law. From time to time I get track of them. My brother-in-law had a laugh at me once. I was paying him a visit when his company was in the front line and he told me that Fritz always shelled a certain "street" for a couple of hours each day, starting about the time I arrived. You may be sure I didn't lose much time when I got out, especially as I was out of bounds.

## U. S. COMMISSION BUSY.

(*U. S. Official.*)

As soon as it became certain that every branch of the Government service must expand to war proportions, and as quickly as possible, the Civil Service Commission was confronted with problems which, owing to industrial conditions prevailing, have proved to be difficult of solution. Not the least of these has been the task of keeping pace with the demand for stenographers and typewriters, both in the departments and offices at Washington and in field branches.

Even in normal times a sufficient number of qualified stenographers and typewriters to meet the needs of the Government are not easy to obtain. That the Civil Service Commission has been able thus far to meet the greatly increased calls for eligibles has been due to the fact that from the beginning of the altered conditions the commission has conducted a campaign which has employed every available agency to impress upon the public this need of the Government. Business schools, typewriter manufacturing companies, newspapers and periodicals, and the commission's 3,000 local representatives in every part of the country, have rendered most valuable assistance.

Stenographer and typewriter examinations for the departmental service at Washington are held every Tuesday in 400 of the principal cities. Examinations for the field service also are held frequently. Since the beginning of this calendar year the commission has examined approximately 20,000 applicants for stenographer and typewriter positions. Of this number, about 11,000 competed in examinations for the departmental service at Washington. Practically all of those who passed the examinations for the departmental service, except those who entered the more recent examinations, have been offered employment at salaries ranging from \$900 to \$1,200 a year.



## Personals.

### General.

The marriage of Miss Lillian Coleman, lately of the Department of the Interior, to Senator George Taylor, for many years chief Government whip in the Commons, was recently celebrated.

John T. Cameron, youngest son of the late A. W. Cameron, Railways and Canals, was married on July 31st to Anna, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Wilkinson, of Chicago.

J. R. M. Walker, of the Governor General's Office, was married on August 1st to Constance Josephine, daughter of the late Capt. J. B. Clay and Mrs. Clay, of Montreal.

Dr. R. J. McFall, of the Census, and other members of the permanent Civil Service, are assisting Food Controller Hanna in handling the difficult problems of his office.

### Obituary.

Marguerite, wife of J. P. McMullen, and daughter of W. J. McCaffrey, of the Department of Customs, and Mrs. McCaffrey, died on July 27th.

Frederick Lapointe, for twenty-five years in the Department of Customs, died on July 30th. He leaves a widow, a daughter and four sons — two of them in the C.E.F.

An old-time civil servant passed away in the person of David Matheson, who was, before his superannuation, superintendent of the Savings Banks Branch, Post Office Dept. He entered the Service in 1861 and retired in 1899.

George H. Pope, formerly right-of-way agent of the Department of Railways and Canals, died in Winnipeg on August 4th. He was born at Cookshire, Que., in 1837.

Marshall W. Thompson, for twenty-seven years cashier of the custom

house at Windsor, Ont., died on August 8th, aged seventy-two years.

Miss Catherine Pitts, of the Department of the Interior, was struck by an automobile on Bank street, on August 11th, and so badly injured that she died in a few minutes.

A. W. Fraser, K.C., brother of John Fraser, I.S.O., Auditor General, died on August 13th.

## REPATRIATION.

Lieut.-Col. J. Obed Smith has been in charge of the organization work in England for the repatriation of thousands of Canadian women and children, and his work in that connection is highly praised by those who have knowledge of the extent and difficulties of the task. Among the aids to the Assistant Superintendent of Emigration who have been especially mentioned are C. A. Allan, W. A. Allan and Barclay McConkey, of the Dept. of Interior staff in England.

## U. S. SERVICE INCREASE.

Reference has already been made in *The Civilian* to increases of salaries granted to civil servants in the United States. The following is the reading of the clause from Section 2 of the Appropriations Act by which the increases were granted:

"That to provide, during the fiscal years nineteen hundred and eighteen, for increased compensation at the rate of ten per centum per annum to employees who receive salaries at a rate per annum less than \$1,200, and for increased compensation at the rate of five per centum per annum to employees who receive salaries at a rate not more than \$1,800 per annum and not less than \$1,200 per annum, so much as may be necessary is appropriated."





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# THE POSTAL JOURNAL

All communications, matter for publication, etc., to be sent to "Editor of Postal Journal," Calgary, Alta.

VOL. II.

AUGUST 17, 1917.

No. 23

## RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT.

We have had the privilege once again of sitting in Convention, with a further opportunity of taking stock of our organization. The year that has just passed has seen the development of the Association beyond the point almost of the fondest hopes of previous gatherings of this kind. In itself, that is a source of much gratification and pride to every live member. It is much more than that to the hard-working officers and past officers, who have ever kept before them the ideal of a true Dominion-wide society, and have kept pressing steadily forward towards its realization. At last the chasm that divided east and west—which, by the way, was always felt to be more imaginary than real—has been bridged and the structure will become more closely knit as the years roll on.

An old adage says that "failures are but stepping stones to success," and experience would seem to establish its truth. We, too, may have made our mistakes, but we have been singularly free from serious ones. In spite of our youth as an association, our strictly limited opportunities, and the thousand-and-one drawbacks we had to overcome, still, at the same time, the purpose in view was so clearly understood that little room, indeed, existed for the doubts that might have led to a false step. No one would be foolish enough to insist that even the best intentioned and most zealous workers in any cause could not possibly have done better, but in our case it may without presumption be questioned whether they could have guided the ship of association in a more true and happy course. Where the view-point is such that the picture can be seen in true perspective there can be no misconception as to the proper relationship of any particular part to the whole, and criticism should be withheld until that "detached" view has been taken which will preclude the possibility of the part immediately under the eye from bulking too largely in our survey.

So much for what has been—for the present and future, what? If the events

of world-wide significance that have transpired during the past three years have brought unlooked for problems into the lives of men, the postal clerks are no exception. We, like all others, are face to face with conditions that will take our best thought and effort to overcome. With so many of our men overseas, so many, till now, held back because the service could not be run on less than the minimum of experienced help, with the prospect at no distant date of universal military service, welcome to many who have unjustly been made in public and private the innocent victims of the unwarranted sneer and jibe, all the more despicable because those concerned do not possess the ready means of defence of the average private citizen—we need to be constantly on the alert. Steps have already been taken with good results to ensure the interests of the boys abroad, now we must endeavour to safeguard the interests of those still to go. Finally, having done all in our power to co-operate as loyal servants and citizens towards the realization of the great aims for which world-wide democracy is to-day striving, our closest vigilance may be necessary to guard the rights of those left behind.

We have before us in the future many problems of a domestic kind. We are now properly passing, in the sense of experience, from the age of youth to that of manhood, and we must face the problems of the more advanced stage. Our Constitution has been proved to be inadequate to meet our present needs, and, while we have succeeded very well so far in our undertakings, it must be apparent to every member, as it certainly was to every delegate at Convention, that if the most of good is to be hoped for we must revise our plans, and follow a somewhat different policy in the future. At the same time, if the voice of a truly representative convention of postal clerks is to be looked for in the future the question of supplying such help from Dominion funds as will make that "consummation so devoutly to be wished" possible, must be tackled and overcome. If we fail in this we fail in everything, but no one



will believe otherwise than that a membership, solicitous for the welfare of all its widely scattered branches, will allow for one moment the mere trifle of monetary help needed to bar the way.

For the present our fight for the increase of remuneration which has been withheld so long, and at such hardships, especially to men on the lower grades, is being pushed to the limit. Our endeavour to secure a measure of recognition for the semi-staff — that most absurd and anomalous of all service distinctions — which shall be nothing less than their inclusion, where they rightly belong, within the scope of the privileges of city clerks is one in which the association must win. No argument on earth can justify the present illogical position which the Department appears to assume on this question. Finally, the equally illogical and equally unjust disability imposed by the Qualifying examination upon certain of our members must be lifted. Whatever may be said — and it's a great deal — for an entrance examination or one before appointment, requiring a good working knowledge of English or French, with the usual elementary subjects, in preference to the present system, no stretch of reason can account for the force of the present Preliminary examination, any more than it can justify the Qualifying where it now stands.

The moral, then, is plain. It is an Association with cent per cent membership, willing and anxious to facilitate, and loyal to support the work of the Executive as we "press towards the mark."

S. H. TEASE,  
President.

#### POSTAL CLERKS INTERVIEW THE GOVERNMENT.

Since the last issue of the "Civilian" a delegation of Post Office clerks, representing the entire Service, visited Ottawa to lay before the Cabinet a number of resolutions adopted at their recent Convention held in the City of Winnipeg. The delegation consisted of the following gentlemen: Messrs. Crate and Gallagher, of Toronto; Messrs. Jacques and Hebert, of Montreal; Mr. J. W. Green, of Winnipeg, and Mr. W. J. Cantwell, of Ottawa. They arrived in the City on the 5th instant, and spent the morning of the 6th in consultation with Departmental officials.

On Tuesday they waited on the Cabinet when a number of very important suggestions were made with a view to the improvement of conditions in this important branch of the Public Service.

In addition to the question of increased

remuneration the delegation discussed with the Ministers the status of clerks in what is technically known as Semi-staff offices. In these offices the salary of a Postal clerk is determined by the revenue of the office, and is not fixed by statute as in the larger City offices, while a letter carrier employed in the same office is a full-fledged Civil Servant. In many instances the letter carrier is in receipt of a higher salary than the clerk.

Another matter which the Postal Clerks' Association is endeavoring to have settled is the case of Third Class Clerks who were appointed on and since April 1st, 1912. According to existing legislation these men cannot go beyond the maximum of this class without passing the qualifying examination. The Association considers that the academical barrier should be placed at the time of entrance to the Service, and the future advancement of a clerk should be dependent upon efficiency and satisfactory service. The present regulation, it is contended, removes the incentive to further effort on the part of the clerk affected, who may not be able to pass this examination, and works as much harm to the Service as to the individual concerned.

The members of the delegation spent three very busy days in Ottawa, during which they succeeded in interviewing nearly every member of the Cabinet.

They left for their respective homes on Tuesday very well pleased with the reception accorded them by the Ministers, who were most sympathetic, and with the feeling that their labors will bear fruit in the very near future.

#### THEY NEVER DIE

The Brave! who says they die?

Their deathless story

Rings 'cross the emblazon'd sky  
Of England's glory.

He fought, and fell, and met

No tearful eye

To wet his nameless grave—and yet  
He did not die.

She fought a martyr's fight, and fell  
Without a cry.

Ah, sweet Cavell, all, all is well—  
You did not die.

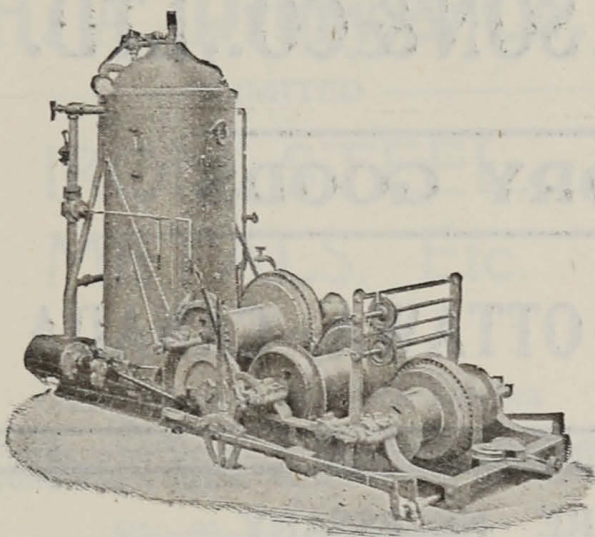
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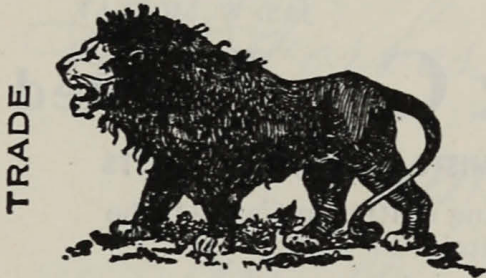
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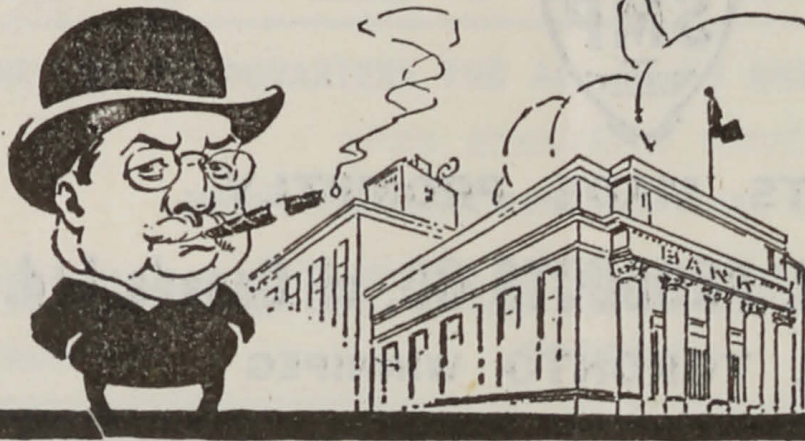
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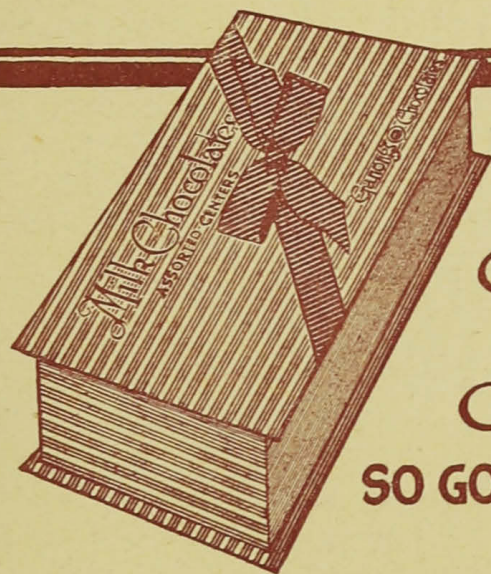
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